### CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD PUBLIC WORKSHOP

# PRIORITIZATION PROCESS FOR PROJECTS DURING THE TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE CENTRAL VALLEY'S WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLANS



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#### **OUTLINE FOR PRESENTATION**

- Background on Basin Plans
- Triennial Review Process
  - 2017 Request for Input
  - Today's Workshop on Prioritization Factors
  - Next Steps

#### **BASIN PLANS**

- Designate beneficial uses for both surface and groundwater
- Establish water quality objectives to protect beneficial uses
- Establish Implementation Plans that describe the actions necessary to achieve water quality objectives
- Describe surveillance and monitoring activities to determine regulatory compliance



#### TRIENNIAL REVIEW

- Federal law requires a review of the Basin Plans every three years
- Public provides input on water quality issues that may need to be addressed through amendments
- Workplan is prepared with a priority list of issues
- Board adopts a priority list, which directs basin planning efforts over the next three years

#### **AMENDMENTS SINCE LAST REVIEW**

#### Adopted and in effect:

- MUN beneficial use de-designated in twelve constructed and/or modified water bodies in the Sacramento River Basin (2015)
- MUN and AGR de-designated from groundwater within the former Tulare Lake Bed (2017)
- Reformat of the Basin Plans (2017)

#### **AMENDMENTS SINCE LAST REVIEW**

Awaiting State Water Board and/or USEPA approval:

- Control program for pyrethroid pesticides (2017)
- Electrical Conductivity water quality objectives in the San Joaquin River (2017)
- Region-wide MUN evaluation process for Agriculturally-dominated surface water bodies (2017)
- CV-SALTS amendments to establish a Central Valley-wide Salt and Nitrate Control Program (2018)

#### **CORE BASIN PLANNING WORK**

Statewide projects that we are supporting, including:

- Development of bacterial standards for Ocean and Inland Surface Waters
- Updates to the Bay-Delta Plan
- Recycled Water Policy Amendments

#### CORE BASIN PLANNING WORK

Existing Regional Board Projects supported by Basin Planning Staff:

- Delta Nutrient Research Plan
- Delta Regional Monitoring Program
- Integrated Report
- Development of Potential Ammonia Objectives
- Dissolved Oxygen in the Old and Middle Rivers
- Implementation of the Pesticide Control Programs

#### **EXISTING BASIN PLAN COMMITMENTS**

- Delta Methylmercury Control Program Review
- Pesticide Control Program Review/Evaluations
- American River Mercury Control Program
- Clear Lake Mercury and Nutrients Programs
- Diazinon/Chlorpyrifos Control Program Review
- Five-year reviews of Salinity Exceptions

#### **CURRENT TRIENNIAL REVIEW PROCESS**

Public Input Project Solicitation – June 2017

- Mailed to 2,600 entities
- Emailed to over 1,300 entities

Two Public Solicitation Workshops – August 2017

- Rancho Cordova Workshop (w/ videoconference link to Board's Redding office)
- Fresno Workshop

#### **CURRENT TRIENNIAL REVIEW PROCESS**

Comments from solicitation (including workshops):

- 21 comment letters
- 3 comments referred by the Salt and Nitrate Control Program process
- 6 comments referred from Integrated Report process
- Comments made at workshops
- Total 95 individual comments relating to 19 water quality issues, 27 individual projects

#### **COMMENTS RECEIVED**

- Dennis Fox
- Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria
- Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District
- North Eastern California Water Association
- Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association & Institute for Fisheries
- Save California's Salmon
- California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
- Central Valley Clean Water Association

- Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association
- Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority
- Modesto Irrigation District
- San Joaquin Tributaries
   Authority
- Turlock Irrigation District
- US EPA Region 9
- Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council
- US Department of Commerce
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### **COMMENTS RECEIVED**

- National Marine Fisheries Service
- Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Elem Indian Colony
- Robinson Rancheria
   Environmental Center
- California Independent Petroleum Association
- Pit River Tribe
- Seneca Resources
   Corporation
- Fresnans Against Fracking

- Sacramento River Source
   Water Protection Agency
- Valley Water Management Company
- Shasta County Board of Supervisors
- US Forest Service
- Central Sierra
   Environmental Resource
   Center
- Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District

#### WATER QUALITY ISSUES

- 1. Salt and Nitrate Management
- 2. Beneficial Use designations (generally)
- 3. Beneficial Use designations in agricultural water bodies
- Guidance for issuance of NPDES permits in effluentdominated water bodies
- 5. Engagement with State Water Board plans and policies
- Changes to how Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) are referenced in the Basin Plans

#### WATER QUALITY ISSUES

- 7. New actions to protect fisheries and aquatic life
- 8. Evaluation of how US EPA recommended criteria are implemented in the Central Valley
- Changes to how the Board prospectively incorporates DDW drinking water standards into Basin Plans
- 10. General updates to the Basin Plans
- 11. New regulatory language to address diurnal variations
- 12. Request for defining "naturally-occurring background conditions"

#### WATER QUALITY ISSUES

- 13. Conducting the 2021 Triennial Review
- 14. Implementation of the Delta Strategic Work Plan
- 15. Pesticide Control Efforts
- 16. Mercury Load Reduction Program
- 17. Battle Creek Projects
- 18. Pit River Beneficial Use Assessment
- 19. Clear Lake Nutrients

#### 27 PROPOSED PROJECTS

- Address broad issues affecting water quality in the Central Valley Region
- List includes some existing projects, some new projects
- Projects would be in addition to our core Basin Planning work

#### 27 PROPOSED PROJECTS

Project Number	Issue Number	Project Name	Existing Project	New Project
1	1	Support for basin planning and implementation activities related to the proposed Salt and Nitrate Control Program	X	
2	2	Tribal Beneficial Uses		Χ
3	2	Guidance for seasonal beneficial uses and diurnal variations		Χ
4	2	MUN in Oil Production Zones		Χ
5	2	Basin Plan Amendment Work Plans under Irrigated Lands General Waste Discharge Requirements		Χ
6	2	Individual Beneficial Use Evaluation for West Squaw Creek		Χ
7	2	Individual Beneficial Use Evaluation for Grassland water supply channels		Χ
8	2	Individual Beneficial Use evaluation for Groundwater beneath Sulphur Bank Mine in Lake County		Χ
9	3	Appropriate Beneficial Use Designation in Agriculturally- dominated Water Bodies and Agricultural Conveyance Facilities	X	Χ
10	4	Evaluation of Effluent-dominated and Individual Water Bodies Dominated by NPDES Discharges		Χ
11	7	Temperature Criteria and Objectives	X	Χ
12	7	Dissolved Oxygen Objectives	X	Χ
13	8	Ammonia Water Quality Objectives	Χ	

#### 27 Proposed Projects

Project Number	Issue Number	Project Name	Existing Project	New Project
14	8	Review of proposed United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Water Quality Criteria and 304(a) Criteria		Х
15	9	Re-evaluation of the prospective-incorporation-by-reference of the Maximum Contaminant Levels		Χ
16	14	Delta Nutrient Research Plan	X	
17	14	Fungicides and Herbicides	Χ	
18	15	Comprehensive Pesticides Control Program	Χ	
19	15	Pyrethroid Research Plan	Χ	
20	15	Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers Organochlorine Pesticides Re-evaluation	X	
21	16	Statewide Mercury Control Program for Reservoirs	Χ	
22	16	Central Valley Rivers Mercury Control Program		X
23	16	Delta Methylmercury Control Program	X	
24	17	Watershed-based Plan Implementation and Update for Battle Creek	X	
25	18	Reassessment of Beneficial Uses and Water Quality Objectives in Specific Reaches of the Pit River		Χ
26	19	Implementation of Clear Lake Nutrient Control Program	X	X
27	12	Development of Procedures to Define and Determine Naturally- occurring Background Conditions		Х

#### PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

Existing Commitments: First, we would set aside those projects where the Board has already made an enforceable regulatory commitment

<u>Special Status projects</u>: Second, we set aside those projects that the Board has previously identified as high priority

Prioritization of Other Projects: Fianlly, other projects will be prioritized based on input received today.

- Prioritization factors will be applied to these projects
- Projects will be placed into ranking groups

#### PROPOSED PRIORITIZATION FACTORS

- Addresses impediments to Water Recycling/Efficient Use/Integrated Water Management
- Addresses Tribal Interests/Human Right to Water
- Represents an efficient use of Board resources
- Complements prior work
- Addresses Special Stakeholder Needs

#### PRIORITIZATION TIERS

Rank 1

**Existing Regulatory Commitments** 

Rank 2

Projects that the Board may elect to prioritize above other projects in its discretion

Rank 3

Projects that meet many prioritization factors

Rank 4

Medium-priority projects to be addressed as resources allow

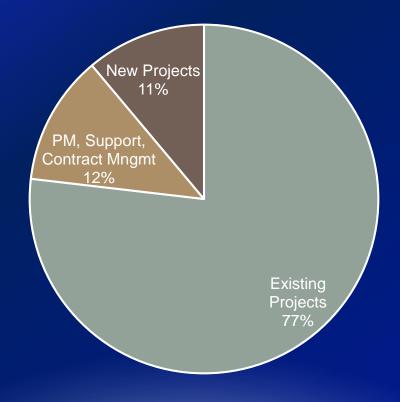
Rank 5

Projects that might *not* be addressed during the next three years due to resource constraints

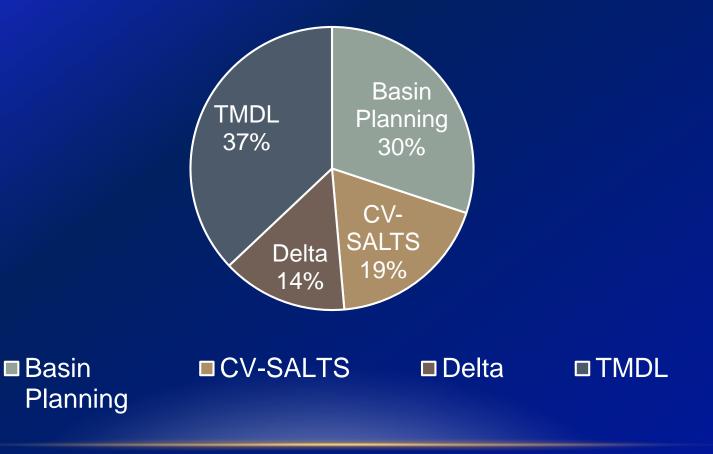
#### RESOURCES

- Approximately 21 person years (PYs) are assigned to Planning for 2018/2019
- Approximately 89% is allocated to existing commitments
  - Existing projects
  - Core support functions of project management, outreach, coordination, and contract management
- Approximately 11% could be directed to new projects

## Most Resources are Invested in Existing Projects and Program Support



#### RESOURCE ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM



#### **NEXT STEPS**

- Today's workshop: Board Input/Public comment on prioritization process
- Develop and circulate workplan
- Hearing in December for adoption of the workplan

#### QUESTIONS?

